

## Message Text

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73

ACTION NEA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02 INR-07 L-02

NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 USIA-06 OMB-01

SAB-01 SAM-01 /057 W

----- 067796

R 071225Z MAR 75

FM AMEMBASSY TEL AVIV

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 5890

INFO AMEMBASSY AMMAN

AMEMBASSY CAIRO

AMEMBASSY JIDDA

AMCONSUL JERUSALEM

C O N F I D E N T I A L TEL AVIV 1527

JERUSALEM HOLD FOR THE SECRETARY'S PARTY..

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR, IS, JO

SUBJ: MAALE ADUMIN AGAIN SPARKS POLITICAL DEBATE

REF: TEL AVIV 1367

SUMMARY: POLITICAL SPARRING OVER MAALE ADUMIN INDUSTRIAL PARK  
MADE HEADLINES THROUGHOUT WEEK, WITH MAIN RESULT OF DEBATE  
BEING REAFFIRMATION OF GOI DECISION TO FORGE AHEAD WITH  
PROJECT AS PLANNED. END SUMMARY.

1. IN WAKE OF ILLEGAL SETTLEMENT ATTEMPT MARCH 2 (REFTEL),  
ISRAELI POLITICIANS SPENT TWO DAYS DEBATING MAALE ADUMIM,  
AT MARCH 4 MEETING OF LABOR ALIGNMENT EXECUTIVE AND KNESSET  
FACTION AND IN KNESSET PLANUM MARCH 5. NET UPSHOT OF  
DISCUSSIONS WAS TO SHOW THAT (A) DEVELOPMENT OF MAALE ADUMIM  
AS INDUSTRIAL ZONE RELATED TO JERUSALEM HAS UNANIMOUS  
SUPPORT OF CABINET; (B) ONLY MEANINGFUL DISSENT WAS FROM  
ELEMENTS DESIRING FASTER PROGRESS ON DEVELOPMENT, WITH  
"DOVISH" OPPONENTS REDUCED TO CONDEMNING MARCH 2 ILLEGAL  
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SETTLEMENT ATTEMPT OTHER THAN PROJECT ITSELF; (C) MOTIVATION

FOR DEBATE WAS AS MUCH POLITICAL REQUIREMENTS OF VARIOUS  
MINISTERS TO PROTECT THEIR DOMESTIC BASES AS  
SUBSTANCE OF MATTER (D) POSSIBLE FOREIGN POLICY  
REAFFIRMATIONS OF MA'ALE ADUMIM APPEAR TO HAVE BECOME LOST  
IN SHUFFLE, E.G., CITIZENS RIGHTS LEADER SHULAMIT ALONI  
DURING PARLIAMENTARY MANEUVERING PROPOSED TO REMAND ISSUE  
TO INTERIOR COMMITTEE AS ECOLOGICAL PROBLEM.

2. SPEAKING FOR GOI IN KNESSET, COMMERCE AND INDUSTRY  
MINISTER BAR-LEV EMPHASIZED GOVERNMENT'S "UNEQUIVOCAL"  
DECISION THAT JERUSALEM NEEDS A FURTHER INDUSTRIAL  
AREA TO BROADEN ITS DEVELOPMENT BEYOND SPHERES OF TOURISM,  
SERVICES AND PROFESSIONAL/ACADEMIC ACTIVITY. BAR-LEV  
CONFIRMED THAT, IN ADDITION TO IL 10 MILLION ALLOCATED FOR  
INFRASTRUCTURE, GOI WILL SPEND ABOUT IL 4 MILLION FOR  
RESIDENTIAL FACILITIES. HE FORCEFULLY CONDEMNED MARCH 2  
SETTLEMENT ATTEMPT AS "NOT ONLY A MOVE TOTALLY CONTRAVENING  
LAW AND ORDER, BUT..ALSO A RASH AND TOTALLY SUPERFLUOUS  
ACT". BAR-LEV SAID THAT GOI WAS DETERMINED TO AVOID CREATION  
OF ANY FACTS WHATSOEVER WHICH DO NOT CONFORM TO AUTHORIZED  
DECISIONS OF THE CABINET, AS CONFIRMED BY THE KNESSET. IN  
BRIEF REFERENCE TO THIS ISSUE, FOMIN REAFFIRMED TO AMB  
ON MARCH 6 CABINET'S DECISION (REF) THAT HOUSING AT PROJECT  
WOULD ONLY BE FOR THOSE EMPLOYED THERE AND THEIR FAMILIES.

3. COMMENT: MOST STRIKING ASPECT OF ENTIRE PUBLIC DEBATE  
WAS THAT IT IN EFFECT HAS SUBSUMED MA'ALE ADUMIM ISSUE INTO  
FRAMEWORK OF ISRAELI DOMESTIC POLITICAL MATTER (PRIORITIES  
IN RESOURCE ALLOCATION, AUTHORITY OF GOI ETC). SOME ISRAELIS,  
INCLUDING SOME OFFICIALS INVOLVED IN ADMINISTRATION OF OCCUPIED  
TERRITORIES, ARE UNDOUBTEDLY AWARE THAT THIS PROJECT  
COULD PROVE TO BE MAJOR NEW OBSTACLE IN ALREADY COMPLEX  
ARRAY OF PROBLEMS INVOLVED IN NEGOTIATIONS WITH HUSSEIN--  
IF THEY EVER COME ABOUT. HOWEVER, IN CONTEXT OF DEBATE, EVEN MAPAM'S  
EXPRESSED CONCERN THIS WEEK ABOUT POSSIBLE DAMAGING IMPLICATIONS  
FOR COURSE OF ARAB-ISRAELI NEGOTIATIONS SEEMS TO BE STRICTLY  
FOR THE RECORD. OVERWHELMING CONSENSUS AT THIS STAGE IS THAT  
FOR COMBINATION OF ECONOMIC AND STRATEGIC CONSIDERATIONS,  
WORK ON PROJECT WILL GO AHEAD IN ACCORDANCE WITH GOI  
DECISIONS.

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## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** INDUSTRIAL DEVELOPMENT, LAND SETTLEMENT, MILITARY OCCUPIED AREAS, POLITICAL SITUATION  
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**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 07 MAR 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** ElyME  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
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